Stacey C. Stone, Esq. Richard R. Moses, Esq. Anna E. Cometa, Esq. sstone@hwb-law.com rmoses@hwb-law.com acometa@hwb-law.com

Counsel for Appellants

# **EMERGENCY**

# IN THE SUPREME COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA

LIZ VAZQUEZ, CHRIS DUKE, RANDY ELEDGE, STEVE STRAIT, and KATHRYN WERDAHL,

Appellants,

v.

LT. GOVERNOR NANCY DAHLSTROM, in her official capacity as Lt. Governor for the State of Alaska, and MICHAELA THOMPSON, in her official capacity as Director of the Division of Elections,

Appellees.

JENNIE ARMSTRONG,

Intervenor.

Supreme Court No.: S-\_\_\_\_

Superior Court No. 3AN-22-09325 CI

# **EMERGENCY MOTION TO EXPEDITE APPEAL**

Liz Vazquez, Chris Duke, Randy Eledge, Steve Strait, and Kathryn Werdhal ("Appellants"), by and through their counsel of record Holmes Weddle & Barcott, P.C., hereby file this emergency motion to expedite its appeal from the Superior Court filed

contemporaneously herewith. Opposing counsel has been advised that this motion is being filed and they do not oppose Appellants' proposed briefing and argument schedule described below.

# I. STATEMENT OF FACTS

This appeal stems from an election dispute regarding the issue of whether Intervenor, Jennie Armstrong, is eligible to hold public office under Article II, sec. 2 of the Alaska Constitution, specifically, whether Ms. Armstrong has met the durational residency requirement for candidacy.

The Superior Court held an evidentiary hearing on December 22, 2022, and issued its findings on January 9, 2023 determining that Ms. Armstrong met the residency requirement to hold office. A decision is needed on this appeal before the 33<sup>rd</sup> Alaska Legislature convenes on January 17, 2023.

#### II. PROPOSED BRIEFING SCHEDULE

Appellants seek a decision in this appeal before **9:00AM on Tuesday, January 17, 2023,** which is the date the legislature is set to convene and conduct its swearing in ceremony. To meet this deadline, the parties request the following briefing and argument schedule:

- Simultaneous briefing for all parties due at 11:59 p.m. on January 11, 2023.
- Oral Argument held on January 13, 2023.

# III. PARTIES

The telephone numbers and addresses of counsel for Appellants Liz Vazquez, Chris Duke, Randy Eledge, Steve Strait, and Katheryn Werdahl ("Appellants"), are as follows:

Stacey Stone, Richard Moses, and Anna Cometa

Holmes Weddle & Barcott, P.C. 701 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 700

Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: (907) 274-0666

Emails: sstone@hwb-law.com

rmoses@hwb-law.com acometa@hwb-law.com

The telephone numbers and addresses of counsel for Appellees Lt. Governor Kevin

Meyer, in his official capacity as Lt. Governor for the State of Alaska, and Gail Fenumiai, in her official capacity as Director of the Division of Elections, (collectively "the State"), are as follows:

Laura Wolff, Margaret Paton-Walsh, Thomas Flynn Attorney General's Office 1031 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200 Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: (907) 269-5100

Emails: <a href="mailto:laura.wolff@alaska.gov">laura.wolff@alaska.gov</a>

margaret.paton-walsh@alaska.gov

thomas.flynn@alaska.gov

The telephone numbers and addresses of counsel for Appellee Intervenor Jennie

Armstrong ("Armstrong"), are as follows:

Scott Kendall and Samuel Gottstein Cashion Gilmore & Lindemuth 510 L Street, Suite 601 Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: (907) 222-7932

Emails: <a href="mailto:scott@cashiongilmore.com">scott@cashiongilmore.com</a></a>
<a href="mailto:scott@cashiongilmore.com">sam@cashiongilmore.com</a>

# IV. CONCLUSION

Appellants respectfully request this Court to enter an expedited schedule and issue its decision before 9:00AM on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

DATED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023 at Anchorage, Alaska.

# HOLMES WEDDLE & BARCOTT, P.C. Counsel for Plaintiffs

By: /s/ Stacey C. Stone

Stacey C. Stone
Alaska Bar No. 1005030
Richard R. Moses
Alaska Bar No. 1311096
Anna E. Cometa
Alaska Bar No. 1305037

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that on this <u>10<sup>th</sup></u> day of January, 2023, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served via Email to:

Laura Wolff
Margaret Paton Walsh
Thomas Flynn
Alaska Department of Law
laura.wolff@alaska.gov
margaret.paton-walsh@alaska.gov
thomas.flynn@alaska.gov

Scott M. Kendall
Samuel G. Gottstein
Cashion Gilmore & Lindemuth
scott@cashiongilmore.com
sam@cashiongilmore.com

I further certify that the typeface used in the foregoing is 13 point Times New Roman, in accordance with Appellate Rule 513.5(c)(2)

By: /s/ Brian J. Fontaine

Brian Fontaine Legal Assistant Holmes Weddle & Barcott, P.C.